

News from SALEM COUNTY

Office of Public Information

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ARTS IN BLOOM A Spring Studio and Gallery Tour in Salem County

(SALEM, NJ)—Salem County's riverfront and countryside are especially beautiful in the Springtime and the County's arts community has organized *Arts in Bloom*, a weekend celebration of arts combining the beauty of the season with the artists' creativity. On Saturday, May 30, 10 am – 5 pm and Sunday, May 31, 12 noon – 5pm, artists will be exhibiting their best with floral creations inspired by the art at 23 locations across the County – "Arts in Bloom" in every sense.

The event features over 50 established and emerging artists representing a wide variety of work. Painting, sculpture, photography, printmaking, collage, glass art, woodturning, metalsmithing are offered in stunning and intimate settings including gardens and greenhouses as well as studios and galleries. Selected locations are also featuring plein air painting demonstrations as well as musical performances and puppet theatre – truly something for everyone. In addition, participating merchants are offering special premiums for tourgoers including discounts and free gifts.

"This is a choice opportunity to meet and discover Salem County's creative community and experience the remarkable work that is being created here," said Deputy Freeholder Director Beth Timberman. "By talking with the artists, visitors will insights into the creative process as well as have the opportunity to purchase work directly from the artists."

This two-day event is self-guided and there is no admission charge. Tour brochures listing all the participating sites and merchants are available on-line at www.visitsalemcountynj.com or by contacting the Salem County Cultural & Heritage Commission (856-935-7510 x8532). Printed brochures will be available by mid-May at the Salem County Visitors Center, 1 New Market St., Salem, NJ (856) 935-9242, as well as Beans Coffee Shop, 9 N. Main St., Woodstown, Mullica Hill Stained Glass Co., 457 Route 40, Elmer, and Pennsville Public Library, 190 S. Broadway, Pennsville.

Arts in Bloom promises to be a truly unique and memorable opportunity to discover the arts and artists of Salem County.